

Please amend claims 1, 16 and 34 to read as follows:

1. A method for collection of blood comprising:
positioning a body portion, from which blood is to be withdrawn, within a shield member such that the shield member is generally disposed between the body portion and a hand of a user;

stabilizing the body portion using a digit of the user's hand; and
inserting an insertion member of a blood extraction device into the body portion such that the shield member is generally disposed between the insertion member and the user's hand.

16. A method for collection of umbilical cord blood comprising:

positioning an umbilical cord within a shield member;
stabilizing the umbilical cord using a digit of the user's hand; and
contacting the cord with a blood extraction device.

34. A method for collection of blood from an umbilical cord (cord blood), comprising:

providing a shield member, one portion of which is configured to be releasably held in one hand of a user and another portion of which is configured to releasably receive the umbilical cord, wherein the another portion includes a surface recess extending along an axis of the shield member, in which is received the umbilical cord and wherein the recess and the one portion are each arcuate in cross-section;

holding a shield member with one hand of a user;

positioning the umbilical cord within the shield member such that the shield member is generally disposed between the umbilical cord and the one hand;

stabilizing the umbilical cord using a digit of the user's hand while holding the shield member using the one hand;

inserting an insertion member of a blood extraction device into the umbilical cord using another hand of the user such that the shield member is generally disposed between the insertion member and the one hand; and

withdrawing the cord blood from the umbilical using the blood extraction device.